

UPI-44

(CIA)

WASHINGTON--SENATE LEADERS TODAY POSTPONED FOR THIS WEEK A STATE SHOWDOWN ON THEIR CIA WATCHDOG COMMITTEE DISPUTE TO PERMIT FURTHER COMPROMISE TALKS ON THE ISSUE.

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER MANSFIELD ANNOUNCED THE DECISION AFTER A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING WITH CHAIRMEN OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES AND FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEES AND OTHER PRINCIPLES IN THE STALEMATE. THE POSTPONEMENT CAME JUST TWO HOURS BEFORE THE SENATE WAS SCHEDULED TO CONSIDER A MOVE BY FULBRIGHT'S COMMITTEE TO GAIN A ROLE IN THE TASK OF SURVEILLANCE OVER THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, NOW HANDLED BY A SUBCOMMITTEE HEADED BY RUSSELL. THE GEORGIA DEMOCRAT'S SPECIAL GROUP CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

MANSFIELD SAID ONE REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT WAS THE HOSPITALIZATION YESTERDAY OF CHAIRMAN CARL HAYDEN, D-ARIZ., OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

INDICATING SOME HOPE OF A FRIENDLY SOLUTION, MANSFIELD ADDED THAT "ANOTHER REASON WAS BECAUSE WE ARE STILL TRYING TO WORK OUT A COMPROMISE SOLUTION IN CONSULTATION WITH VARIOUS INTERESTED SENATORS." HE ADDED:

"WHETHER THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED I AM NOT AT ALL CERTAIN. BUT I AM HOPEFUL IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO SETTLE THIS QUESTION IN A MANNER WHICH FORECLOSES FLOOR DEBATE ON THIS MOST SENSITIVE SUBJECT AND AT THE SAME TIME GUARANTEES DUE REGARD TO THE LEGITIMATE INTEREST OF ALL COMMITTEES CONCERNED IN THIS FIELD."

THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS MORNING'S HUDDLE IN HIS OFFICE "IT IS NOT ANTICIPATED THAT THE CIA RESOLUTION WILL BE BROUGHT UP THIS WEEK."

MEETING WITH MANSFIELD WERE RUSSELL, FULBRIGHT AND SENS. JOHN STENNIS, D-MISS., AND EUGENE MCCARTHY, D-MINN. STENNIS SERVES ON BOTH ARMED SERVICES AND APPROPRIATIONS WHILE MCCARTHY A FOREIGN RELATIONS MEMBER, IS THE AUTHOR OF A PENDING RESOLUTION TO FORMALIZE AND BROADEN THE EXISTING CIA REVIEW GROUP TO INCLUDE THREE FOREIGN RELATIONS MEMBERS.

INDICATING HIS HOPE OF A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE, MANSFIELD SAID "THEY ALL HAD OPEN MINDS AND ALL SEEMED TO BE NOT AVERSE TO A COMPROMISE IF ONE COULD BE WORKED OUT."

HE SAID SOME "SUGGESTIONS" WERE CONSIDERED BUT DECLINED TO DETAIL WHAT THEY WERE.

AFTER THE MEETING IN MANSFIELD'S CAPITOL OFFICE, FULBRIGHT AND MCCARTHY CONFIRMED THAT FLOOR CONSIDERATION OF CIA SURVEILLANCE HAD AGAIN BEEN DEFERRED. BOTH SAID THE POSTPONEMENT WAS DUE IN PART TO THE ILLNESS OF HAYDEN.

WITH RESPECT TO A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE OF THE DISPUTE, MCCARTHY SAID: "WE'RE STILL TRYING TO WORK SOMETHING OUT," BUT ADDED THAT, "THERE'S NOTHING NEW IN THE POT."

ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN INDEPENDENT THREE-MEMBER FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE TO GET ITS OWN INFORMATION FROM CIA, MCCARTHY SAID THAT POSSIBILITY HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR SOME TIME.

MANSFIELD SAID CREATION OF SUCH AN ADDITIONAL CIA WATCHDOG GROUP WAS DISCUSSED TODAY ALONG WITH THE PROPOSAL, EMBODIED IN MCCARTHY'S RESOLUTION, FOR ADDING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO THE

PRESENT WATCHDOG SUBCOMMITTEE. MANSFIELD SAID HE THOUGHT THAT IF SUCH A NEW GROUP WERE ESTABLISHED ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE THAT IT WOULD BE FULLY ADVISED BY CIA.

FULBRIGHT HAD COMPLAINED THAT, WHILE ADM. WILLIAM J. RABORN, DIRECTOR OF THE CIA, HAS BRIEFED THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON OCCASION, HE HAD DECLINED TO ANSWER CERTAIN QUESTIONS ON GROUNDS THAT THE INFORMATION CAN LEGALLY BE PROVIDED ONLY TO RUSSELL'S CIA WATCHDOG SUBCOMMITTEE.

MANSFIELD SAID HE THOUGHT RABORN WOULD NOT BE SO CONSTRAINED "IF THE RIGHT KIND OF A SOLUTION WAS FOUND."

MANSFIELD TOLD NEWSMEN HE WAS "NOT AT ALL CERTAIN" ABOUT A COMPROMISE "BUT HOPEFUL." HE SAID A FLOOR FIGHT ON THE CIA ISSUE "WOULD NOT HELP CIA...WOULD BENEFIT NO ONE."

"SOME STATEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE THAT WE WOULD WISH HAD NOT BEEN MADE," MANSFIELD SAID.

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